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November 8, 2004

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, we hereby provide you with notice of an oral *ex parte* presentation in connection with the above-captioned proceeding.

On Thursday, November 4, 2004, undersigned counsel met with Jessica Rosenworcel in Commissioner Copps' office to discuss the pending petition by RCC Minnesota, Inc. ("RCC") for FCC concurrence with the Maine PUC's proposal to redefine rural ILEC service areas pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.207(c). We also discussed similar petitions that are pending before the FCC from applicants in Minnesota and Colorado.

We discussed the difficulties faced by public safety and law enforcement personnel who are hampered by poor cellular coverage in Maine's most rural areas. Undersigned counsel urged prompt action by the Commission and made statements consistent with RCC's comments to the Commission in connection with its pending petition.

No written materials were provided at the meeting. If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact undersigned counsel directly.

Sincerely,



David A. LaFuria

cc: Jessica Rosenworcel, Esq.